IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Our File: AJF-2 204 0HS

Date: August 13, 2009

In the PATENT APPLICATION of:

Stone et al.

Application No.: 10/566,938

Confirmation No. 1160

Filed: February 2, 2006

FOR THROUGH-AIR DRYING PROCESS

Group: 1794

Examiner: Andrew T. Piziali

REPLY UNDER 37 CFR §1.116

Mail Stop AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Reply is being submitted in response to the Office Action dated May 20, 2009.

Reconsideration of the prior rejection is respectfully requested. Applicants have also submitted the Declaration of Richard Stone Under 37 CFR §1.132 ("the Stone Declaration") in support of this Reply.